

actual possession, and those which by operation of law may revert to her, has been extinguished. For turning immigration into her borders, she had to depend solely upon the inducements presented by her soil, climate and productions. But to place these inducements fairly before the world, she, as well as other Southern States, had to encounter obstacles of the most formidable character. A brief retrospect will demonstrate their nature.

For more than a quarter of a century before the civil war between the States, there was a wide divergence of opinion between the North and South respecting the institution of slavery. Long before this state of things culminated in actual war, the feeling between the two sections was one of intense hostility. On the part of the South the conflict was carried on in Congress, and by the secular press. At the North both of these engines for controlling opinion were resorted to, and ultimately the pulpit there became the favorite theatre for waging the bitter strife. The South was held up to the world by Northern statesmen of distinguished talent in set speeches, and by eminent divines in elaborate works, as a land of violence, lawlessness and barbarism. Fiction with all its most glowing colors was employed to heighten the picture to the imagination, and the arts of design in cartoons by the most celebrated artists to make the picture palpable to the eye, for the purpose of arraying the feelings of mankind against the Southern States and Southern people. To make the case as strong as possible, the condition of the slave was painted in the darkest colors. It was represented as a condition of abject misery; one from which all intellectual light was shut out by being debarred from education; one of intolerable oppression under which the mass of the slaves had sunk to a state but little better than that of brutes. These speeches and writings had a wide circulation abroad and moulded opinion there. To such an extent did this phrensy proceed that in the opinion of a large proportion of the people of the North, the people of the